

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1-8 are amended. Thus, claims 1-8 are active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

The specification and abstract have been carefully reviewed and revised in order to correct grammatical and idiomatic errors in order to aid the Examiner in further consideration of the application. The amendments to the specification and abstract are incorporated in the attached substitute specification and abstract. No new matter has been added.

Also attached hereto is a marked-up version of the substitute specification and abstract illustrating the changes made to the original specification and abstract.

In item 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3-5 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Applicants' admitted prior art (AAPA) (Figures 11a-13, as described in pages 1-5 of the specification) in view of Yamamoto et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0185932).

Without intending to acquiesce to this rejection, independent claim 1 has been amended to more clearly illustrate the marked differences between the present invention and the applied references. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is patentable over the applied references for the following reasons.

As illustrated in Figure 2, the memory of the data playback apparatus of the present invention includes a management data folder 202 and at least two program data folders 203, 204 and 205. Each of the at least two program data folders contains a program composed of compressively coded data including at least one vide data file. For instance, program data folder 203 in Figure 2 contains compressively coded data including movie data file 1 (208) and movie data file (209), and program data folder 204 contains compressively coded data including movie data file 3 (210), movie data file 4 (211) and movie data file 5 (212).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the memory has at least two program data folders each containing a program composed of compressively coded data including at least one video data file.

In contrast to the present invention, the AAPA, as illustrated in Figure 11(a), includes a memory in which a route folder DVD_RTAV 1101 is stored. However, the folder 1101 contains only one movie data file 1103, which is illustrated as being composed of three programs 11031, 11032 and 11033 in Figure 11(b). Although the movie data file 1103 contains these three

programs, the entire structure of the DVD of the AAPA contains only a single folder 1101 which contains a program of compressively coded data.

On the other hand, as described above, claim 1 defines that the memory has at least two program data folders each containing a program composed of compressively coded data including at least one video data file.

Accordingly, in addition to failing to disclose or suggest the feature of reading and decoding compressively coded data which are stored in a selected program folder, and outputting decoded data, as acknowledged by the Examiner, the AAPA clearly fails to disclose or suggest a memory which has at least two program data folders each containing a program composed of compressively coded data including at least one video data file, as recited in claim 1.

Similarly, Yamamoto et al. also fails to disclose or suggest a data playback apparatus comprising a memory which has at least two program data folders each containing a program composed of compressively coded data including at least one video data file, as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, no obvious combination of the AAPA and Yamamoto et al. would result in the invention of claim 1 since the AAPA and Yamamoto et al., either individually or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claim 1.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is clearly patentable over the AAPA and Yamamoto et al.

In item 7 on page 5 of the Office Action, claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the AAPA in view of Yamamoto et al. and further in view of Morley et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0135619). Further, in item 8 on page 6 of the Office Action, claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the AAPA in view of Yamamoto et al. and further in view of Ishii et al. (U.S. 5,361,173).

As demonstrated above, the AAPA and Yamamoto et al. each fail to disclose or suggest the memory as recited in claim 1.

Similar to the AAPA and Yamamoto et al., Morley et al. and Ishii et al. also fail to disclose or suggest a data playback apparatus comprising a memory which has at least two program data folders each containing a program composed of compressively coded data including at least one video data file, as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, Morley et al. and Ishii et al. do not cure the deficiencies of the AAPA and Yamamoto et al. for failing to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claim 1. Thus, no obvious combination of the AAPA, Yamamoto et al., Morley et al. and Ishii et al. would result in the invention of claim 1 since the AAPA, Yamamoto et al., Morley et al. and Ishii et al., either individually or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claim 1.

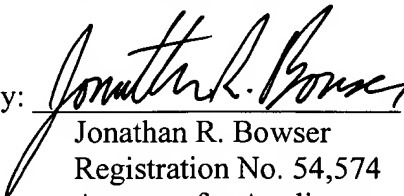
Furthermore, it is submitted that the distinctions are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would not have been motivated to modify the AAPA, Yamamoto et al., Morley et al. and Ishii et al. in such a manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claim 1. Therefore, it is submitted that the claim 1, as well as claims 2-8 which depend therefrom, are clearly allowable over the prior art as applied by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshinori MATSUI et al.

By: 
Jonathan R. Bowser
Registration No. 54,574
Attorney for Applicants

JRB/nrj
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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